

# The Ohio State University Early Head Start Partnership Program

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## INTRODUCTION

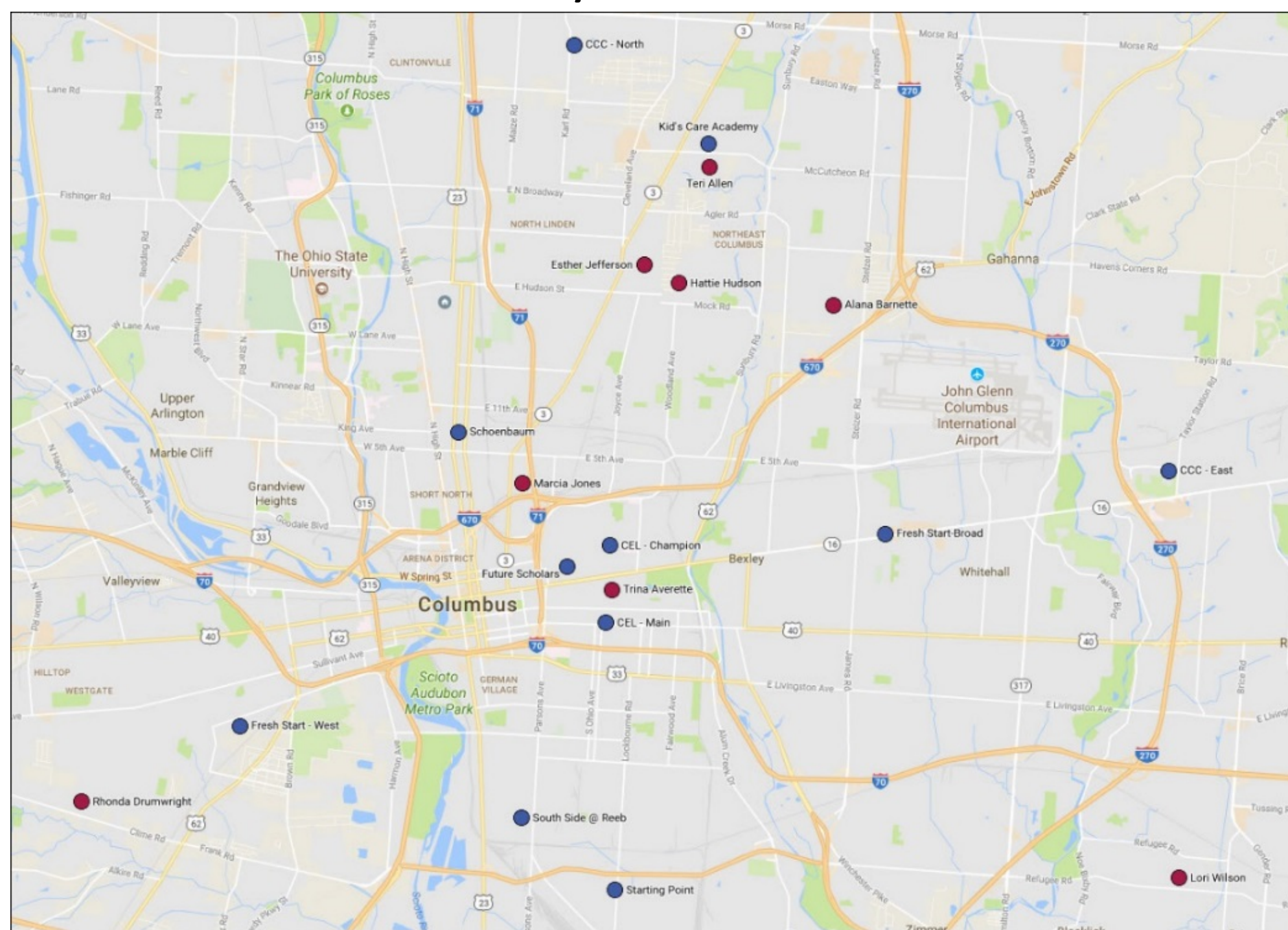
The Ohio State University-Early Head Start Partnership Program is a collaborative project of child care centers, family child care providers, and community agencies under the leadership of the university that focuses on services to young children (6 weeks-3 years) and their low-SES families.

## VISION

The OSU-EHS partnership will be known as an exceptional quality infant & toddler education program with a comprehensive model of collective impact through the leveraging of community partners and resources.

## OUR FOUR GOALS

- Expand access to high quality services for low income infants, toddlers and their families.
- **Create a network of community partnerships as a base to provide high quality comprehensive services (i.e., mental health, nutrition, disabilities, health, education, family stability and support).**
- Implement a quality program that is aligned to the Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS).
- Engage parents in their role as primary caregivers for their children and move parents toward self-sufficiency.



## PARTNER AGENCIES

- Children's Hunger Alliance
- Columbus Public Health Department
- Community Properties of Ohio
- Crane Center for Early Childhood Research & Policy
- Directions for Youth & Families
- Franklin County Board of Development Disabilities
- Franklin County Department of Job & Family Services
- Franklin County Family & Children First/Help Me Grow
- Moms2B
- Nationwide Children's Hospital
- New Directions Career Center
- OSU College of Nursing
- OSU Department of Speech & Hearing
- OSU Nisonger Center
- St. Vincent Family Center

## Nationwide Children's Hospital Dentistry

Preventive oral health begins when a baby's first tooth erupts. Decay is caused by frequent consumption of sugar filled drinks, poor eating habits, and lack of brushing. Since April 2017, all children enrolled in the Partnership are provided with dental exams and cleanings by a Nationwide Children's Hospital pediatric dentist and/or hygienist. The staff provide these "knee-to-knee" exams in the child care centers and family child care homes. The exam includes an evaluation of the teeth and gums, tooth-brushing, and a fluoride varnish application. Caregivers complete an oral health survey prior to the appointment. Feedback is given to the caregivers based on this information as well as the results of the dental exam. The goals of this partnership are:

- To increase caregiver's oral health knowledge
- To prevent cavities and mouth pain which can lead to problems in eating, speaking and learning

## Dental Exams Provided

Year	Dental Exams Provided
2017-2018	105



## Nationwide Children's Hospital Primary Care Centers & Care Mobile

Health and wellness is critical during the first three years of life. A goal of the OSU Early Head Start Partnership is for all infants and toddlers enrolled in the program to have a medical home and to remain up to date on their well child exams and immunizations. Nationwide Children's Hospital Primary Care provide health services for sixty-seven percent of the enrolled children. In addition, two mobile care units provide health services at our partnering child care centers for those families who cannot attend their child's appointments due to work or transportation barriers.

## Care Mobile Services

Year	Well Child Exams Completed	Immunizations Administered
2015-2016	52	88
2016-2017	65	129
2017-2018	16	29
<b>Total</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>246</b>



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF  
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EARLY HEAD START  
CHILD CARE



**NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S**  
*When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.™*